

The Daily News.

FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 7, 1866.

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE STATE.

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE CITY.

THE LIST OF LETTERS REMAINING in the Postoffice at the end of each week is published officially in THE DAILY NEWS every Friday morning.

LOCAL MATTERS.

THE AMERICAN FARMER, for December—Baltimore: WORTHINGTON & LEWIS. This monthly is filled with valuable information for gardeners and farmers, and merits a large circulation in our State. It is excellently printed.

THE CHARLESTON HOTEL, last night, was the scene of gay and festive enjoyment. The wet evening utterly failed in throwing a damper upon the buoyant spirits there assembled. The U. S. 6th Infantry-Band was there in full strength, and for several hours entertained the numerous guests with their exquisite music. An occasional cord would even steal round the corner to the News office, to cheer us in our weary nocturnal labors, for which the Band has our thanks, and Messrs. WHITE & MILLER our kind remembrance.

FIRE IN FLORENCE.—Several attempts have been made during the last month to set fire to different buildings in the town of Florence, and more especially to the machine shops of the Northeastern Railroad Company. The house of Mr. H. S. HAINES, the master machinist, was burned down a few days ago, and the store of Mr. STOLL, the ticket agent, has also been destroyed by fire. An attempt has also been made to burn the house of Mr. A. CORRE. The incendiaries, whoever they may be, seem to have a particular spite against the Northeastern Railroad Company and its employees, and it seems to us advisable that some precautions should be taken by that corporation in particular, and by the people of Florence in general, against the success of such further efforts as may be made by the incendiary villains.

RATS AND MATCHES.—Mr. J. H. STALEY has called our attention to a half-barrel box of matches found at the mouth of a rat-hole in his store, corner of Anson and Liberty streets. It seems that the rats must have set it on fire by gnawing it, and then alarmed by the blaze have taken to flight. It is fortunate that the fire went out without being communicated to anything beyond the box, for had it been otherwise, not only might Mr. STALEY's store have been destroyed, but many buildings besides. We publish this statement, not only because it gives an account of a curious fact, but also that it may serve as a warning to the public not to allow boxes of matches to be scattered about in the way of rats and other mischief-makers.

IMPROPER CONDUCT.—Many of our young men, with no intention of being an annoyance to others, as we firmly believe, are in the habit of assembling of an evening in front of our houses of worship, and with cigars and pipes in their mouths incommensurate ladies and those who attend there for legitimate purposes, and who suffer from inhaling the smoke as it enters the doors and diffuses itself around. We have been requested by the officers of some of the churches to touch upon this matter, in connection with the vile habit of smoking, with tobacco juice, the clean floors and carpets of the different sanctuaries, they being as much impressed as we are that this hint will be sufficient to arrest any further complaint.

OMNIBUS CAMUS DIEM SUAM HABERE.—Our attention has been called, from time to time, to the marked paucity of omnibuses in our city, but we never had this lamentable fact so forcibly thrust upon us as in looking over the last annual report of the City Treasurer. There we learned, to our surprise, that Charleston, during the past year, was guarded by only three hundred and sixty-five dogs. Our learned City Council, it would appear, mistook the old proverb, that every dog has its day, for an ancient municipal regulation, and, in accordance therewith, have passed an ordinance dogmatically restricting the tale of dogs to the number of days in the year; and even this short allowance was again curtailed by forbidding barking on the 4th of July, Guy Fawkes, Yankee Doodle, and other national holidays. "Let dogs delight," etcetera.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Venus, the Evening Star, is now a brilliant object in the starry firmament. The planet is now moving towards us at the velocity of 80,000 miles an hour; and though keeping in this direction for some weeks, will diminish in brightness on account of the opaque side being gradually turned towards us. On the eleventh of this month it will pass directly between the earth and sun, at the distance from the earth of twenty-seven millions of miles. At that point it will be of course invisible to us, but from its surface the earth would afford a brilliant object to the spectator—many times more so than Venus appears to us when brightest. The next transit of Venus will take place in seven years from the present time, and the astronomers have quite a list of problems laid up for verification on that occasion.

MAYOR'S COURT, December 6.—MRS. LAWLESS, a sailor boarding house keeper in Elliott street, was brought up for making an outrageous attack upon a seaman on Wednesday, knocking him down, stamping him with his boot in his face, and beating him on the head with a large rock, which was exhibited in Court. Officer LEVY, who testified in the case, said that he felt satisfied that LAWLESS would have committed murder if he had not come up when he did and arrested him. The sailor, who was present, bore the marks of the very violent treatment he had undergone. The case was sent to a magistrate for prosecution. This same man, about three months ago, made a similar brutal attack upon a drunken soldier, at the corner of Market and Meeting streets, in the presence of a number of citizens, and that case was also ordered for prosecution.

Robert Smith, a light-colored individual, whom the green-eyed monster had tempted to hit his wife on the head with a stick, admitted the fact, and the "better-half" was advised to consult a magistrate upon the matter.

George Hancock, a "colored punson," who had got drunk and staggered against a lady in the street, was fined \$2.

A female, who had been overtaken by a bottle of whiskey and knocked down in the street, was fined \$5 for not getting out of the way when she saw it coming.

Two young colored sprouts, who had been arrested for shinning in the street, to the great danger of the "heads of the people," were ordered to be imprisoned two and a half hours.

The lovers of the weed, who delight in smoking "near the sea," still continue to make morning calls on the Mayor, and contribute their mite to "paying expenses."

COUNTERFEIT MONEY.—An individual was arrested in this city before yesterday under the following circumstances: He owed a man \$5, and paying him with a \$50 counterfeit, took \$45 change and vanished. The party imposed on presented the \$50 bill at the People's National Bank, and it was there stamped as counterfeit. He then called on the party who gave it to him to take it back, which he refused to do. Lieutenant HENDRICKS, of the Detectives, was then employed to arrest him, which he succeeded in doing about dark. At the time of his arrest he had seven or eight of the counterfeit \$50's on his person. They are tolerable imitations of a \$50 greenback, but can be readily detected by the indistinctness of the button on the lapel of FRANKLIN'S coat.

REPAIRS OF THE CITY HALL.—Council Chamber is now quite a luxurious apartment. A rich Brussels carpet covers the floor; the desks, tables, sofas, chairs, &c., are plain but substantial, while the window curtains and the gas fixtures are of the most elegant description. Around the walls are hung, in handsome gilt frames, full length portraits of WASHINGTON, CALHOUN, ANDREW JACKSON, and Mr. WM. LEXTON, and a half-length portrait of ZACHARY TAYLOR. These paintings are all by good artists, and are acknowledged to be first-rate likenesses.

The Mayor's room and the Clerk's office have also been elegantly fitted up, although in not quite such superb style as the Council Chamber. A full length portrait of President MONROE, in a magnificent gilt frame, uniform in style with those in the Council Chamber, adorns the walls of the Mayor's room. Over the mantelpiece in the Clerk's office is a large painting, five feet long and five feet high, representing the Fire Department in 1840. The scene is laid in Meeting street, just north of Broad street, and the east side of the street as far up as the Circular Church appears upon the canvas. It is summer, and the trees of the City Square are in full foliage. The City Hall appears in its original red brick. The Fire Proof Building is not quite such as it appears at the present day. The steeple of the Circular Church appears in the background and the blocks of buildings from Chalmers' street to the church are complete. In the foreground is a group of figures representing the following persons, standing from left to right as you face the picture, as follows: D. McINTOSH, an Engineer; Captain SMITH, President of the Eagle; R. W. BACOR, President of the Phoenix; WM. H. GIBSON, President of the Charleston; P. COBBINS, Vice-President of the Charleston; Firemaster HOFF; R. W. HARE, Vice-President of the Vigilant; C. MEYER, the Mayor; WM. TAYLOR, Vice-President of the Phoenix; Firemasters BEE and McDONALD; Vice-President OSTENDORF, of the German; Dr. KEELEY, President of the Marion; JOHN A. WAGENER (now General WAGENER), President of the German; the Vice-President of the Marion; TROST, SMITH, President of the Neck Axe Company; Mr. PETERSON; Firemaster NATHANIEL FIELDS; JOHN SCHNEIDER, Chief of the Fire Department; Firemaster W. H. KIRKWOOD; CHAS. H. WEST, President of the Vigilant; JOHN SYMONS, President of the Palmetto; CLEARON, an Engineer; Firemaster WM. HOWLAND and HUGER R. BAKER, a side face, name unknown; JOHN HERIOT, President of the Ethna; R. HAMMETT, Chief Engineer; Firemaster JOHN SMILING; D. BONEST, President of the Charleston Axe Company; R. DOYLE, an Engineer, and H. CASEY, of the Ethna.

In a window of the City Hall, looking on, are seen Mayor MINTZING and Alderman PATRICK. In a portion of the Fire-Proof Building are seen several ladies in coal-scuttle bonnets and short-waisted dresses, without hoops. In all there are thirty-nine faces and figures in the picture, every one of them sufficiently distinct to be recognized by any one acquainted with the originals.

It is as well to remark, perhaps, that the Board of Firemasters at that time was composed of Aldermen, and not of the Presidents of the different companies, as at present, and that the engineers spoken of belonged to a corps who superintended the blowing up of buildings with gunpowder—a mode of putting a stop to the progress of a conflagration which has, we believe, become almost, if not entirely, obsolete. This picture was painted by Mr. C. MEYER, a German artist, in 1841, and was raffled by him to obtain some compensation for his labor. It was won by Mr. R. W. BACOR, then President of the Phoenix, and allowed by him to be hung up in the hall of that company. When the hall was destroyed by fire in 1851, the picture was rescued from the flames, as we have been informed, by Mr. SIMONS, of the firm of ALLAN & SIMONS, and it was afterwards, on May 6, 1852, presented to the City Council by Mr. PETERSON, the son of the former proprietor. It has now on its ugly scratches, which were made on it by coal and other rough things among which it was hid by Mr. W. H. SMITH, Clerk of Council, to save it from the United States' forces after the evacuation of the city by the Confederates.

In the Clerk's Office, opposite the painting of the Fire Department, is a large plat of the City of Charleston in 1852, 6 feet by 4, surveyed by R. P. BRIDGES and ROBERT C. ALLEN, and drawn by Mr. F. ENGERT.

There is also in the Council Chamber a miniature painting of the Marquis DE LAPAYETTE, executed by Mr. CHARLES FRASER, the well-known amateur artist of this city, the history of which is somewhat remarkable. After the evacuation of Charleston by the Confederate forces, in February, 1865, it was taken out of the hands of the Clerk of Council, against his earnest remonstrances, by one Capt. STANLEY, of the U. S. steamer *State of Georgia*, which gallant officer also took off with him a large mirror from the Mayor's room, to adorn his cabin, and also a handsome chair for the same purpose. In November, 1865, just after the election of Mayor GALLIARD, it was sent by express to ex-Mayor MACBETH, unaccompanied by a letter, and, in fact, without any clue to where or whom it came from, save the express mark—"Norfolk, Va."

Some of the furniture that is now in the City Hall is what was there during the war, but the carpet of the Council Chamber, and most of the furniture, is new—the former carpet and much of the furniture having been sent North while the Hall was in military possession, and never since restored.

LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP SUWANNEE.—The steamship *Suwannee*, from New York for Brazos Santiago, having encountered much heavy weather and put into the Delaware Breakwater, afterward left that point to continue her voyage, and on the night of the 3d inst., off Georgetown, S. C., experienced a terrible gale from southeast, during which she foundered, all hands taking to three boats, two of which were soon after picked up by the brig *Poloma*, from this port for Georgetown, S. C., and carried to that point. The captain's boat, containing himself and fourteen others, has not been heard from. The officers and men who were saved by the *Poloma* arrived here yesterday by the steamer *Fannie*, Captain DAVIS, from Georgetown, S. C. The following report has been furnished us by the supercargo, Mr. J. FRED. SCHULTZ:

LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP SUWANNEE.—The steamship *Suwannee*, J. W. Catharine master, left New York on the 27th November, bound to Brazos Santiago, with a heavy freight. The vessel being loaded down with her cargo, the ship was unable to make head against the heavy weather. The weather was moderate until after passing Abasco Light, when the wind freshened from S. and W., with a head sea. While standing down for Cape Henlopen, bound for the Breakwater, Delaware, the steamer struck the shoal of Hereford Inlet. Finding it impossible to get her

off without lightening, we threw over about 200 cases of heavy goods, when she floated off. We then ran for the Breakwater and anchored. After taking on board the cargo, we put to sea on the 30th, with a strong westerly wind, and on the 1st of December, the ship was driven into the Cape Henlopen light, a heavy gale set in from the S. and E., and the wind and sea increased, until at midnight it blew a hurricane. The ship, laboring heavily, frequently falling off into the trough of the sea, taking in water over the hurricane deck. From this time up to 5 A.M. the water gained rapidly, but the steam and hand pumps were kept going, and efforts made to lighten her by throwing over cargo. At 5 A.M. the water was within twelve inches of the fire, and the firemen up to their waist in water, trying to keep the fire going. At 6 o'clock, finding the ship must go down, got out the boats and launched them safely, although the sea was running very heavy. All the ship's company left her in safety, and about an hour after we saw her go down. After leaving the boats, three in number, steered to the N. and W.—the captain's boat, containing 15 persons, being ahead of the other two boats, in charge of the first mate and chief engineer, keeping company. About 9 A.M. we lost sight of the captain's boat, and having no company, we returned to the Breakwater, and on the 3d of December, the ship was driven into the Cape Henlopen light, a heavy gale set in from the S. and E., and the wind and sea increased, until at midnight it blew a hurricane. The ship, laboring heavily, frequently falling off into the trough of the sea, taking in water over the hurricane deck. From this time up to 5 A.M. the water gained rapidly, but the steam and hand pumps were kept going, and efforts made to lighten her by throwing over cargo. At 5 A.M. the water was within twelve inches of the fire, and the firemen up to their waist in water, trying to keep the fire going. 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